

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4089

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005

VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONE IN GUJARAT

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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Village Public Telephone (VPT) installed in Gujarat, District-wise;
- (b) the target set for the purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (c) the steps taken to achieve the target;
- (d) the extent to which this target has been achieved so far; and
- (e) by when each village in the country is likely to be provided with VPT?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) 15,855 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided in Gujarat Telecom Circle. The Secondary Switching Area (SSA) wise details are given in the Annexure.

(b) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has entered into an agreement with the office of the Administrator Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund to provide VPTs in remaining 4,144 inhabited villages having population more than 100. These VPTs are planned to be provided in a phased manner by November, 2007. Out of these 4,144 VPTs, 1,130 VPTs have been provided in Gujarat Telecom Circle so far.

(e) BSNL has entered into an agreement with the office of the Administrator USO Fund to provide VPTs in remaining 66,822 villages in phased manner over a period of three years i.e. by November, 2007. This excludes villages which are depopulated, naxalite/insurgency infested, having population of less than hundred persons and those lying in deep forest areas.

Annexure

SECONDARY SWITCHING AREA (SSA) WISE DETAILS OF VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONE PROVIDED IN GUJARAT TELECOM CIRCLE

Sl Name of SSA Number of VPTs provided Total no.

No. by of VPTs
provided
BSNL RIL

1	Ahmedabad	564	158	722
2	Amreli	565	52	617
3	Bhavnagar	587	150	737
4	Bharuch	723	151	874
5	Bhuj	446	153	599
6	Godhra	1,180	322	1,502
7	Himatnagar	879	398	1,277
8	Jamnagar	493	105	598
9	Junagarh	899	41	940
10	Mehsana	601	465	1,066
11	Nadiad	735	354	1,089
12	Palanpur	985	351	1,336
13	Rajkot	805	3	808
14	Surat	788	208	996
15	Surendranagar	565	51	616
16	Vadodara	818	433	1,251
17	Valsad	623	204	827
	Total	12,256	3,599	15,855
